

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TO THE

Clown Rural District Council

for the Year 1941.

Printed by Order of the Council.

A. H. WEAR, M.D., B.S., D.P.H., B. Hy.,
Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health :

A. H. WEAR, M.D., B.S., D.P.H., B.Hy.

District Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor :

W. J. GALLAGHER, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.

Asst. Sanitary Inspector :

J. F. TURNER.

PREFACE.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
CLOWN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MRS. WOOD AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of your district, for the year 1941, the second complete year spent under the shadow of the War cloud.

This War has increased the normal load of responsibility and introduced many new activities within the ambit of the Health Services. The population has been subject to much fluctuation owing to evacuation from outside areas, and at no time is it so vital to safeguard the health of the community.

The health of this District has been satisfactory except for a number of scabies cases which have been greater than during the last year.

I wish to take the opportunity of thanking the Chairman and members of the Council for their continued interest and support.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. H. WEAR.

"Dale Close,"

100, Chesterfield Road South,
Mansfield, Notts,

STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area (Acres)	...	...	...	...	...	13,436
Rateable value 1941	...	...	...	...	...	£71,097
Sum represented by a Penny-rate 1941	...	...	...	...	...	£275

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

During 1941, the number of evacuees in this district diminished considerably owing to the decrease in bombing, which occurred in some of the evacuation areas. At one time there were 1,434 evacuees in Clown Rural District, but by the end of 1941, the number had decreased to 1,250.

The Hostels at Elm Tree House, Tibshelf, for scabies, and at Amber House, Ashover, for difficult children were of great help. At the Elm Tree Hostel, 134 evacuees were admitted with the following complaints :—

- 71 Scabies.
 - 18 Enuresis or bed wetting.
 - 13 Unruly children.
 - 9 Dirty heads.
 - 14 Skin diseases, including 10 impetigo.
 - 2 Measles.
 - 3 Bronchitis.
 - 2 Epilepsy.
 - 1 Otitis media.
 - 1 Colitis.
-

134 Total.

CHIEF CAUSES OF INVALIDITY IN THE DISTRICT.

SCABIES.

The most outstanding cause of invalidity in the district has been an outbreak of scabies, which affected chiefly Whitwell Parish, and to a less degree Clown and Creswell. The Infection in most of the cases was brought into the district by soldiers coming home on leave and by unofficial evacuees. At the moment there is no means of treating these cases except by their own doctor, as the North Derbyshire Hospital Board has decided not to treat them at the local Fever Hospitals, as they have done in the past. I understand that the adjoining authorities of Dronfield, Clay Cross, Chesterfield and Staveley, are proposing to construct a Cleansing Station at Staveley, and I suggest that Clown join in with them if possible, as it is urgently necessary that these cases should have proper treatment if the disease is not to spread.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS. Total. M. F.

Live Births:—	Legitimate	285	145	140	{ Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resi- dent population 16.17
	Illegitimate	14	5	9	

Stillbirths	5	1	4	{ Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 16.4

Total. M. F.

DEATHS.	183	106	77	{ Crude Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 9.8

VITAL STATISTICS—Continued.

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :—

		Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
No. 29	Puerperal Sepsis ...	—	—
No. 30	Other puerperal causes	1	3.28
		—	—
	Total ...	1	3.28

DEATH-RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	66.8
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			59.6
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			213.5

Deaths from :—

Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	—
Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	1
Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	...	...	1
Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	26

The Infantile death-rate of 64 is a little higher than that for England and Wales, which is 59. Six of the deaths were premature babies, and two were cases of congenital malformation.

Birth-rate, Death-rate and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1941.

7

	Birth Rate per 1,000 Total Population		ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION										Rate per 1000 Live Births	
	Live Births	Still Births	All causes	Enteric Fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping-cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis, under 2 years	Total deaths under 1 year	
England and Wales	14.2	0.51	12.9	0.00	—	0.03	0.00	0.06	0.07	0.19	—	5.1	5.9	
125 County Boroughs & Great Towns, including London ...	14.7	0.58	14.9	0.00	—	0.03	0.00	0.07	0.08	0.17	—	7.5	7.1	
148 Smaller Towns (1931 adjusted Populations 20,000—50,000)	16.4	0.60	13.0	0.00	—	0.03	0.01	0.06	0.06	0.20	—	4.6	5.6	
London	8.9	0.33	16.3	0.01	—	0.03	0.00	0.04	0.03	1.15	—	6.8	6.8	
CLOWN R.D.	16.17	0.27	9.8	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.16	0.10	—	3.2	6.4	

Laboratory Facilities.

No changes or developments have been made in connection with laboratory facilities. The number of types of specimens dealt with by the County Laboratories were as follows :—

				Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Enterica :—						
Typhoid, Para-Typhoid A & B				...	—	—
Gaertner, Dysentery, etc.				...	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	34	129	163
Phthisis	...	...	...	4	16	20
Water	...	...	...	2	—	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	1	22	23
				41	167	208

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

The Manton Colliery water continues to give satisfaction, the supply is abundant and the quality good, although hard.

The following is a chemical analysis.

				Parts per 100,000
Total solid matter				...
Free and saline ammonia				40.6
Albuminoid ammonia				0.0002
Nitrogen as nitrates				0.0006
Chlorine				1.1
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80deg. Fahr.				7.3
Hardness	Temporary	...	...	0.008
	Permanent	...	...	12
	Total	...	...	14
Appearance in 2ft. tube	...	...	...	26
Suspended matter.	Clear and colourless			
Metals	...	...	...	Nil.

26 parts per 100,000 total hardness correspond to 18% of hardness.

Drainage and Sewarage.

No new sewers have been laid. The spare ground at all the Sewage Works has been utilised for the production of food.

Closet Accommodation.

			No. in use at end of 1941.
Water Closets	...	...	3,553
Pail Closets	...	...	730
Privy Middens	...	...	661

No conversions were carried out during the year.

Public Cleansing.

No. of miles covered by freighters	...	...	20,623
No. of loads of refuse removed	...	...	3,935

Shops and Offices.

212 Visits were paid to shops and offices.

No action was taken under the Shops Acts, 1934, or the Public Health Act, 1936.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of houses disinfected :—

a. Council Houses	...	2
b. Other Houses	...	7

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

There have been no complaints with regard to the wholesomeness of the milk produced with or brought into the district.

There are 74 cowsheds, dairies and milkshops, and 72 visits were paid by the Sanitary Inspector and his staff.

The National Milk Scheme continues to be popular. It is very essential if the nutrition of the children and expectant mothers is to be maintained, that they should have extra milk at a cheap rate.

The consumption of National Dried Milk has gone up, as the difficulty in obtaining other kinds of dried milk increases. The introduction of half-cream milk has been a great boon in the case of some delicate children who are unable to digest full cream milk. During 1941, 1,256 small children were taking milk at a cheap rate, and 234 were obtaining it free.

Nutrition.

Arrangements for the provision of free Cod Liver Oil and Fruit Juices in the form of black currant juice and black currant puree, were made during 1941, for children up to two years of age. 60% of the children entitled are taking advantage of this offer.

Meat Supply.

The meat for this area is now slaughtered, examined and distributed from the Public Abattoir, Chesterfield. The Sanitary Inspectors paid 316 visits to butchers shops during the last twelve months.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1941.

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases notified.											Total Cases notified in each Parish of the District.				Total Cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
	At Ages—years											Barlborough	Clown	Creswell	Whitwell																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																		
	At all Ages	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45							45 to 65	65 & upwards																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
Small-pox

PREVALENCE OR, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Diphtheria.

57 Cases were notified during 1941, exactly the same number as in 1940. All were removed to hospital. There were 3 deaths.

Antitoxin is supplied free to the Medical Practitioners, and in every case it is given promptly.

Immunisation.

One of the good things to come out of this war will be the protection of child life from diphtheria. Immunisation is simply the injection under the skin of a few drops of fluid in two doses, with an interval of 4 weeks. The procedure which is simple, safe and nothing worse than a pin prick is best done early in a child's life. After injections, a few weeks are needed for full protection to develop.

There is no doubt that immunisation reduces the incidence of clinical diphtheria to 1/10th of the usual figure and the fatality of the disease to zero.

During the year, 1,989 school children were completely immunised in this district out of an estimated total of school population of 3,131. This is 63% of the school children. The figures for the parishes are :—

Creswell	...	...	62%
Barlborough		...	70%
Whitwell	...	...	71%
Clown	...	...	57%

283 Children under 5 years of age were also completely immunised, the estimated proportion of toddlers under 5 years of age was 1,096, so that 25% of these have been done.

Scarlet Fever.

48 Notifications were received, compared with 44 in 1940, and 24 in 1939. There were no deaths. 42 were removed to hospital.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

137 Notifications of Whooping Cough, and 147 of Measles were received. This epidemic occurred during the Summer months and consequently, the complications were few. There was one death from Whooping Cough.

Cerebral Spinal Meningitis.

10 Persons suspected of having this disease were admitted into Lodge Moor Hospital. The diagnosis was confirmed in six, two of which died. All the six cases came from the Parish of Clown.

Infantile Paralysis.

One notification was received, this was a child age 7 years, an evacuee from Birmingham. He was admitted into Bretby Hall for treatment.

Dysentery (Flexner).

3 Cases were notified at a farm in Barlborough Parish. The infection was caused by polluted drinking water.

Tuberculosis.

The following table gives particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of all deaths from this disease during the year :—

Age Periods			NEW CASES				DEATHS			
			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...						
1	...	...			1	1				
5	...	...	1		2	3				
10	...	...						
15	...	...	3				1			
20	...	...	1	2	2	1	1	1		
25	...	...	2	2			2	1		
35	...	...		1			1			
45	...	...	1				1			
55	...	...						
65 and upwards										
Totals	...		8	5	5	5	6	2		

The phthisis death-rate is .43 per 1,000 of the population.

No action has been taken during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths is nil.

All deaths this year had been previously been notified.

ANNUAL REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Name of Inspector, W. J. Gallagher.

Area of district, 13,436 acres.

New houses erected 1941 : (a) By Local Authority—Nil.

(b) By private enterprise—Nil.

	Number of Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector	Number of Informal Notices served by Sanitary Inspector	Number of Legal Notices served by Local Authority	Number of Nuisances abated with or without Notice
CLOSETS AND ASHPITS :				
Defective privies, pail closets & ashpits (not for conversion)	263	112	—	172
Conversion of privies into w.c's	—	—	—	—
Conversion of pail closets into w.c's	—	—	—	—
Conversion of privies into pail closets	—	—	—	—
Defective water closets ...	47	47	—	47
Provision of additional water closets	—	—	—	—
Provision of portable ashbins	154	154	—	150
Dirty closets	9	9	—	9
DRAINAGE :				
No disconnection of waste pipe	—	—	—	—
Defective waste pipe, traps, inlets and drains	63	41	—	41
Drains obstructed	72	39	—	39
OTHER DEFECTS :				
Paving of courts and yards ...	—	—	—	—
Roofs, eaves spouts and down spouts	48	31	—	31
Sinks	10	7	—	7
Insufficient ventilation ...	—	—	—	—

Number of Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector	Number of Informal Notices served by Sanitary Inspector	Number of Legal No tices served by Local Authority	Number of Nuisances abated with or without Notice.
--	--	---	--

OTHER DEFECTS—Continued.

Windows	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Dampness	...	...	...	24	14	—	10
Water in cellars	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Water supply	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Over-crowding	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Foul condition of houses	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Offensive accumulations	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Animals improperly kept	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Pigsties	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Urinals	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Nuisances not specified above	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Totals				690	454	—	506

	Number on Register	Inspections made	Notices served	Nuisances abated with or without Notice
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	74	72	—	—
Bakehouses	5	35	—	—
Slaughter-houses	1	216	—	—
Offensive Trades	—	—	—	—
Common Lodging-houses	—	—	—	—
Totals		80	323	—

W. J. GALLAGHER,
Sanitary Inspector.